

Senate Bill 143

By: Senators Mullis of the 53rd, Pearson of the 51st, Schaefer of the 50th and Whitehead, Sr. of the 24th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

To amend Code Section 50-8-150 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the creation of the State Advisory Committee on Rural Development, so as to create the Georgia Rural Development Council; to provide for its duties and responsibilities; to provide for the composition of the council; to provide for membership, officers, and terms of office; to provide for bylaws; to provide for compensation; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

SECTION 1.

Code Section 50-8-150 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the creation of the State Advisory Committee on Rural Development, is amended by striking the Code section and inserting in lieu thereof a new Code Section 50-8-150 to read as follows:

"50-8-150.

(a) ~~Effective July 1, 1988, there~~ There is created ~~a State Advisory Committee on the Georgia Rural Development Council.~~ The ~~committee council~~ shall advise the ~~commissioner of community affairs and Board of Community Affairs~~ Governor on matters related to rural development and the preparation of a biennial rural economic development plan and any other such matters requested by the ~~commissioner of community affairs or Board of Community Affairs~~ Governor. The ~~committee council~~ shall ~~consist of no less than 15 and no more than 21 members;~~ be composed of elected officials of municipalities, elected officials of counties, members of the General Assembly, and other persons knowledgeable about the community and economic development of rural areas appointed by the Governor. In making appointments to the ~~committee council~~, the Governor shall ensure that members include representatives from throughout rural Georgia.

(b) Members of the ~~committee council~~ shall serve terms of office of two years and until their successors are appointed by the ~~commissioner of community affairs~~ Governor and qualified.

(c) ~~The committee at its initial meeting, which meeting shall be called by the commissioner of community affairs promptly after the appointment of its members, shall elect a chairman, vice-chairman, and secretary from among its members. These~~ The officers of the council shall consist of the Governor, who shall serve as the chairperson, a vice chairperson, and a secretary. Except for the chairperson, the council shall elect officers at its summer meeting or, if there is no summer meeting, at the next scheduled meeting. The vice chairperson and secretary shall serve one-year terms, after which time ~~officers shall again be elected~~ until their replacements are selected and qualified.

(d) The ~~committee~~ council shall meet at least twice a year; however, the ~~commissioner of community affairs or the chairman of the committee~~ Governor may call additional special meetings.

(e) Membership on the ~~committee~~ council shall not preclude the member from holding other public office. Each member of the ~~committee~~ council shall receive the same per diem expense allowance as that received by members of the General Assembly for each day a ~~committee member~~ councilmember is in attendance at a meeting of the ~~committee~~ council, plus reimbursement for actual transportation costs incurred while traveling by public carrier or the mileage allowance authorized for certain state officials and employees for the use of a personal automobile in connection with such attendance. The above shall be paid in lieu of any other per diem, allowance, or remuneration.

(f) ~~The committee~~ council shall adopt, and the Board of Community Affairs shall approve, bylaws for the regulation of its affairs and conduct of its business."

SECTION 2.

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.